



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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#### ALASKAN SALMON PACK SHOWS INCREASE

This year an increase in the salmon runs in Southeastern Alaska--which for years had been progressively declining--kept up the average pack for the whole of Alaska, despite an all time low of many other runs in Alaskan waters, the Fish and Wildlife Service stated today.

The surprising but gratifying pack in Southeastern Alaska this year was 2,400,000 cases, as compared to 1,275,000 in 1948, and a yearly average (for five years) of 1,465,000 cases. This large pack increased the total pack for Alaska to 4,250,000 cases as compared to last year's 4,000,000 cases.

Salmon runs in Southeastern Alaska had reached such a low ebb by 1946 that the whole canning industry was threatened. The Fish and Wildlife Service proceeded to put severe limitations on commercial salmon fishing in that area in 1947--shortening the season, and permitting greater escapements of spawning salmon. This policy is thought to account for the resurgence of the runs this year.

In other parts of Alaska, the salmon runs were so low this year (as in Bristol Bay, where only 524,000 cases of red salmon were packed as compared to last year's 1,236,000 cases) that the Service will have to apply restrictions on fishing similar to those which seem to have saved the threatened Southeastern Alaska runs.

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